Docket No.: 0425-1236PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Akira KATO et al.

Application No.: 10/563,101

Filed: December 30, 2005

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING DRUG

ULTRAMICROPARTICLE AND APPARATUS

THEREFOR

Confirmation No.: 6760

Examiner: A. Soroush

Art Unit: 1616

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated February 5, 2009, finally rejecting claims 1, 3-11,

13-15, 17-22 and 24, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10.